

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/718,913

Confirmation No.: 2397

Applicant

John M. McBean, et al.

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Examiner

Michael A. Brown

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to Commissioner for Patents at 703-872-9306 or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

15 April 5

Date of Signature

and Mail Deposit

Reg. No. 37,303

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated December 15, 2004, please amend the aboveidentified patent application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.